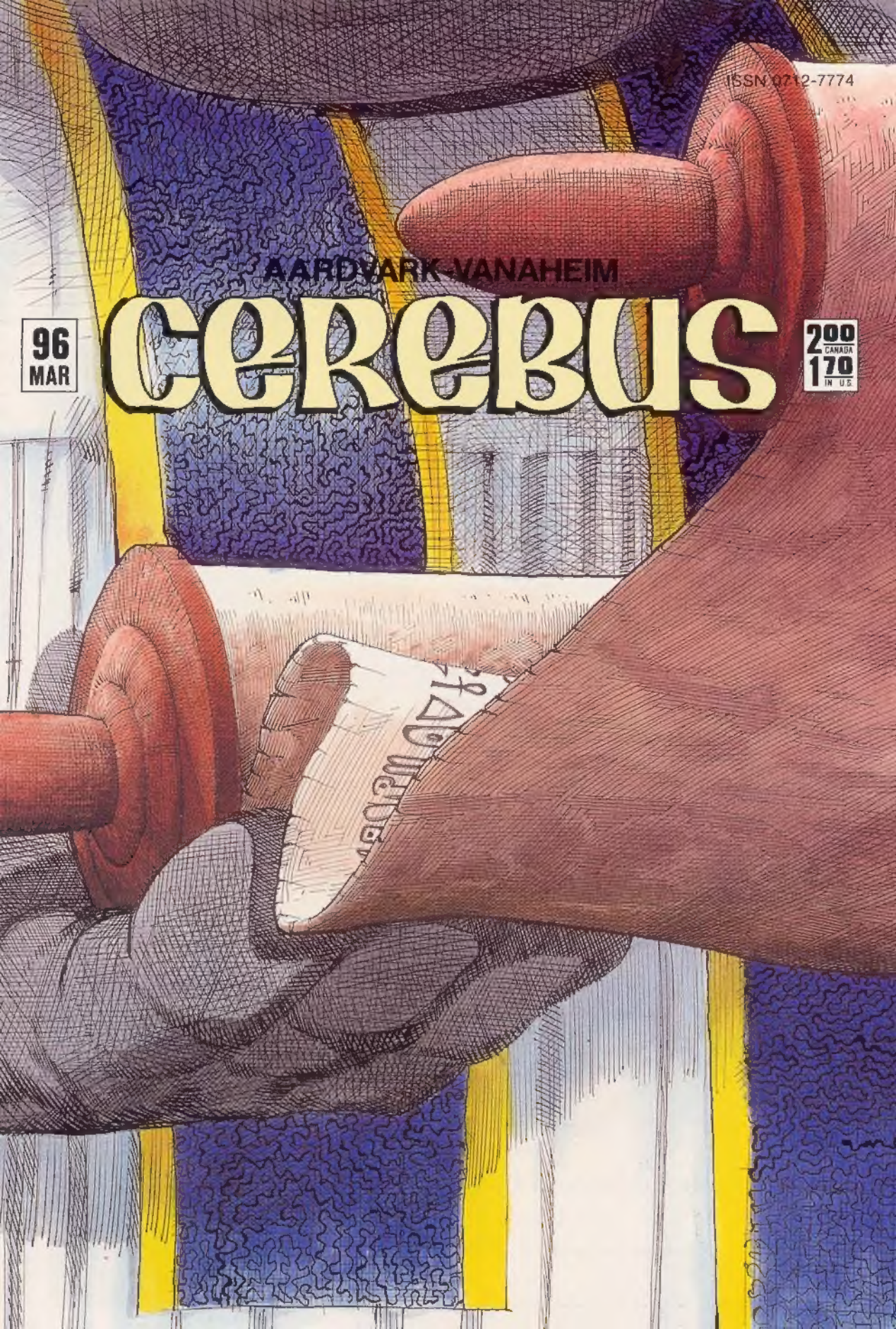
ISSN 0712-7774

AARDVARK-VANAHEIM

CEREBUS

96
MAR

2.00 CANADA
1.70 IN U.S.



N O T E • F R O M • T H E P R E S I D E N T

Time to ruffle a few feminist feathers, but, then, I'm a masculinist so we shouldn't be surprised, should we?

Last night something happened that once more proved to me that a not inconsiderable distance remains to be covered before we are at that point we affectionately used to describe as "liberated".

(A few ladies in the audience have just winced, gentlemen, because the terminology of their "movement" wears about as well as the "I am woman hear me roar" theme song it spawned. Others, unmindful of subtlety, still cling to the sobriquet and become, consequently, ridiculous).

As it is that no one in his (or her) right mind is going to have sexual relations with someone they meet in a bar in this AIDS-ridden time period and as it is that I have no interest in becoming semi-permanently attached to anyone and as it is that I'm addicted to wearing nice clothes, drinking alcohol and dancing and as it is that bars are the only place suited to all these disciplines (or lack thereof) and as it is that spending hours getting ready to go out and seeing what you attract for the sheer joy of ego-gratification has served very well as female entertainment for most of this century that is how I choose to pass many of my hours in this vale of tears.

In short, I never **ask** girls to dance. I wait to be asked.

My percentage is about the same as most women. I attract a lot of very average looking women whom I politely refuse and the occasional nicely-dressed hot-looking chick whom I dance with.

Well.

Last night I had just been served a double Bacardi and coke (tall) and had finished maybe two sips of it when a female hand descended on said drink, placed it on the bar beside me and then grabbed my wrist and pulled me toward the dance floor. She was definitely in the hot-looking category but it would take someone of an infinitely more charitable disposition than myself to describe her as nicely-dressed. (A not altogether uncommon condition among the hot-looking).

My first instinct was to pick up the drink and throw it in her face.

But I was stopped by the sure knowledge that I would be thrown out for causing a rucus (if not booked for assault). I ended up dancing with her but the masculinist in me was steaming and I left the floor mid-way through the song and returned to my place.

Reverse the situation.

What if some guy instead of asking a girl to dance walked up, took the drink out of her hand and pulled her toward the dance floor? Once again, he would either get thrown out or booked for assault.

It bothers me immensely that women think nothing of indulging in behaviour they find unconscionable by virtue of what they have between their legs and the unspoken assumption that no guy is going to pass up a chance to get close to it.

And no, ladies, she was not drunk. She had the clean, sparkly, fresh-scrubbed Ronald Reagan's America look about her and her clothing. She thought she was being cute.

What she was being starts with "c" but it isn't cute.

CEREBUS WORLD CONQUEST TOUR '87

See announcement on page 24

CEREBUS

NO. 96 MARCH 1987

DAVE SIM
President

KAREN McKIEL
Administrator

GERHARD
Backgrounds, cover-colour and tones

Circulation
31,000

CHURCH AND STATE
a novel

•

BOOK ONE
(Cerebus 52 to Cerebus 56)
Aprés State

•

BOOK TWO
(Cerebus 57 to Cerebus 63)
Back to Iest

•

BOOK THREE
(Cerebus 64 to Cerebus 80)
Church and State

•

BOOK FOUR
(Cerebus 81 to Cerebus 89)
The Sacred Wars

•

BOOK FIVE
Astoria

•

BOOK SIX
The Final Ascension

•

BOOK SEVEN
Denoument and Epilogue

•

CEREBUS IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY AARDVARK-VANAHEIM INC. PO BOX 1674 STN. C KITCHENER ONTARIO CANADA N2G 4R2
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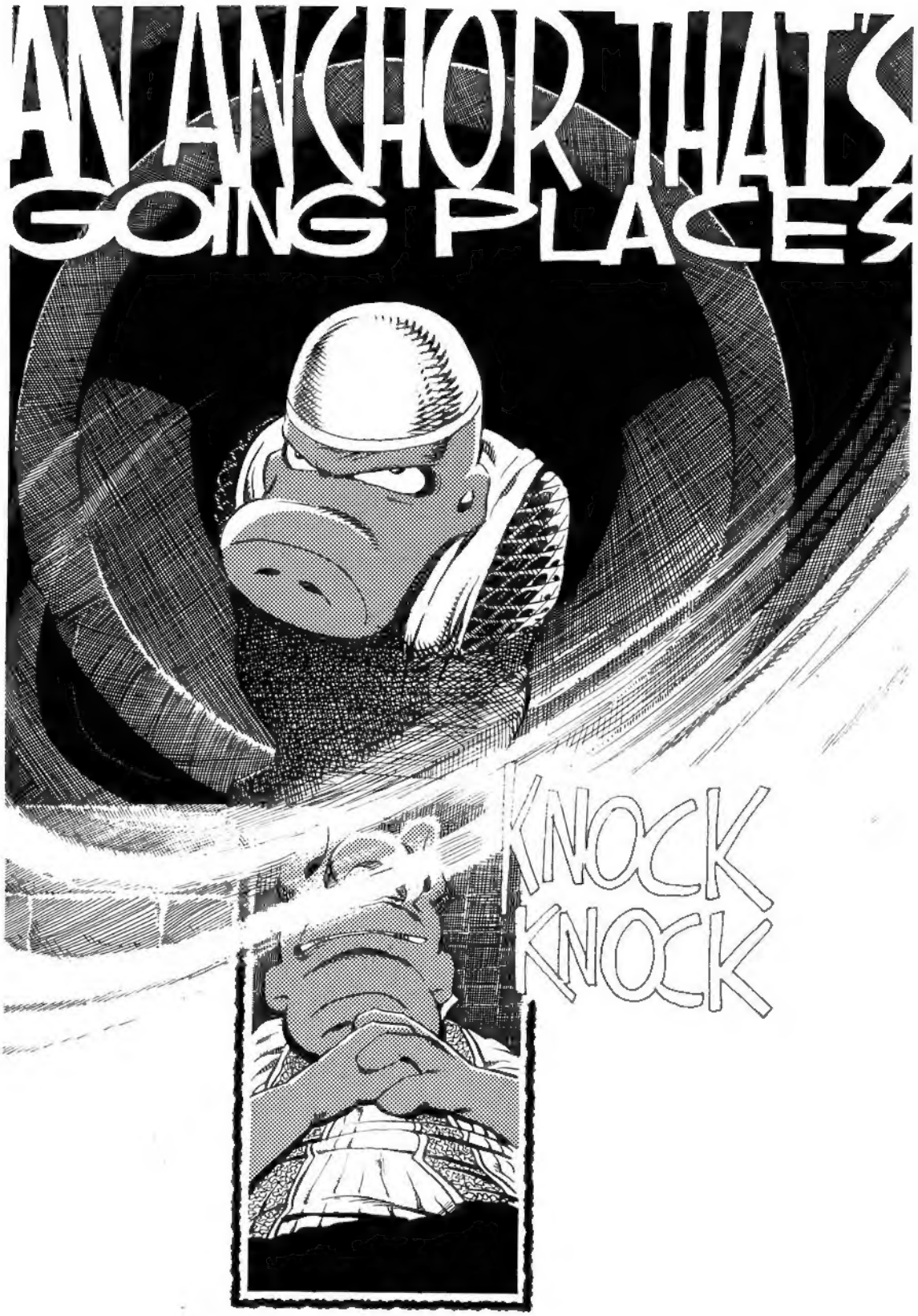
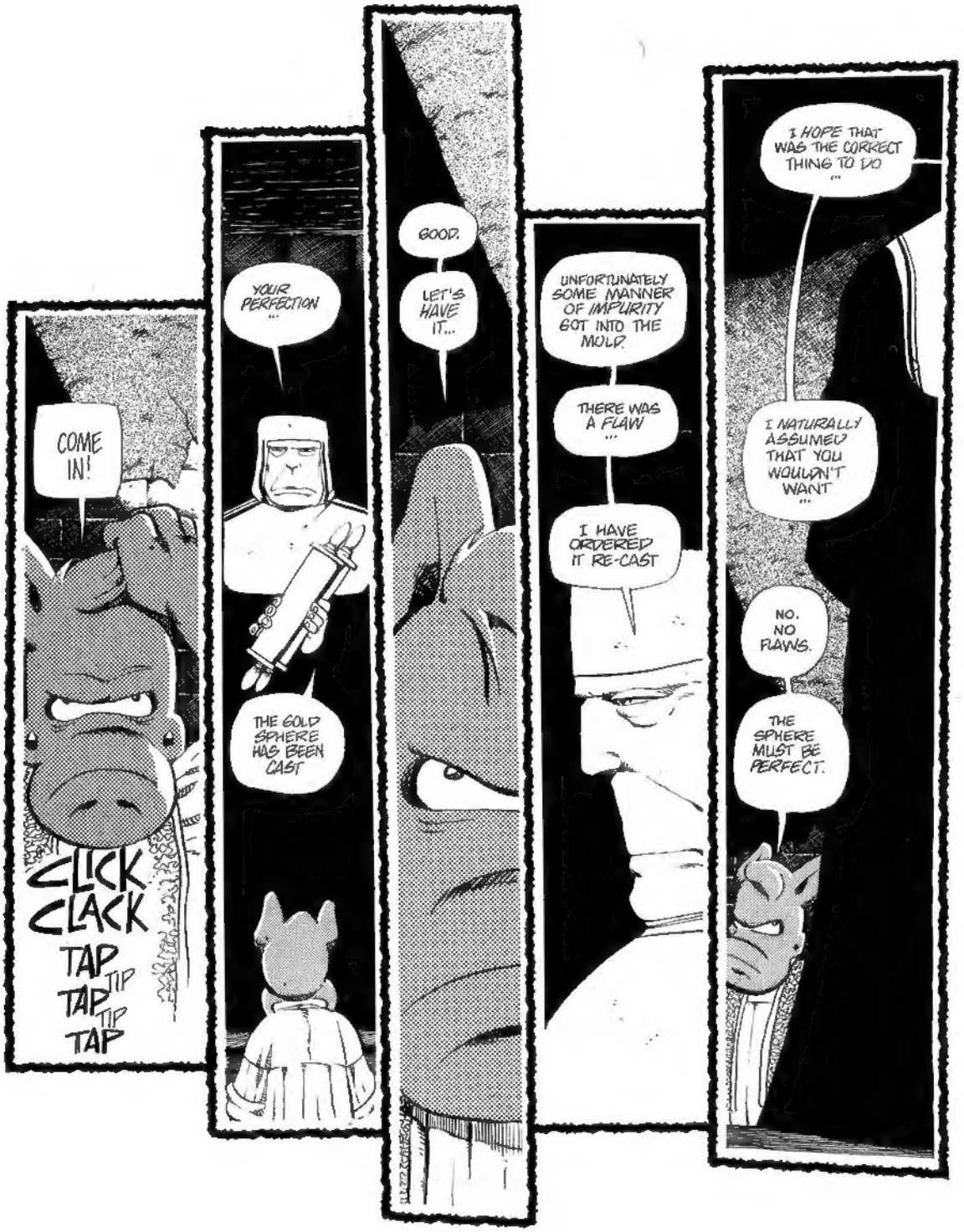
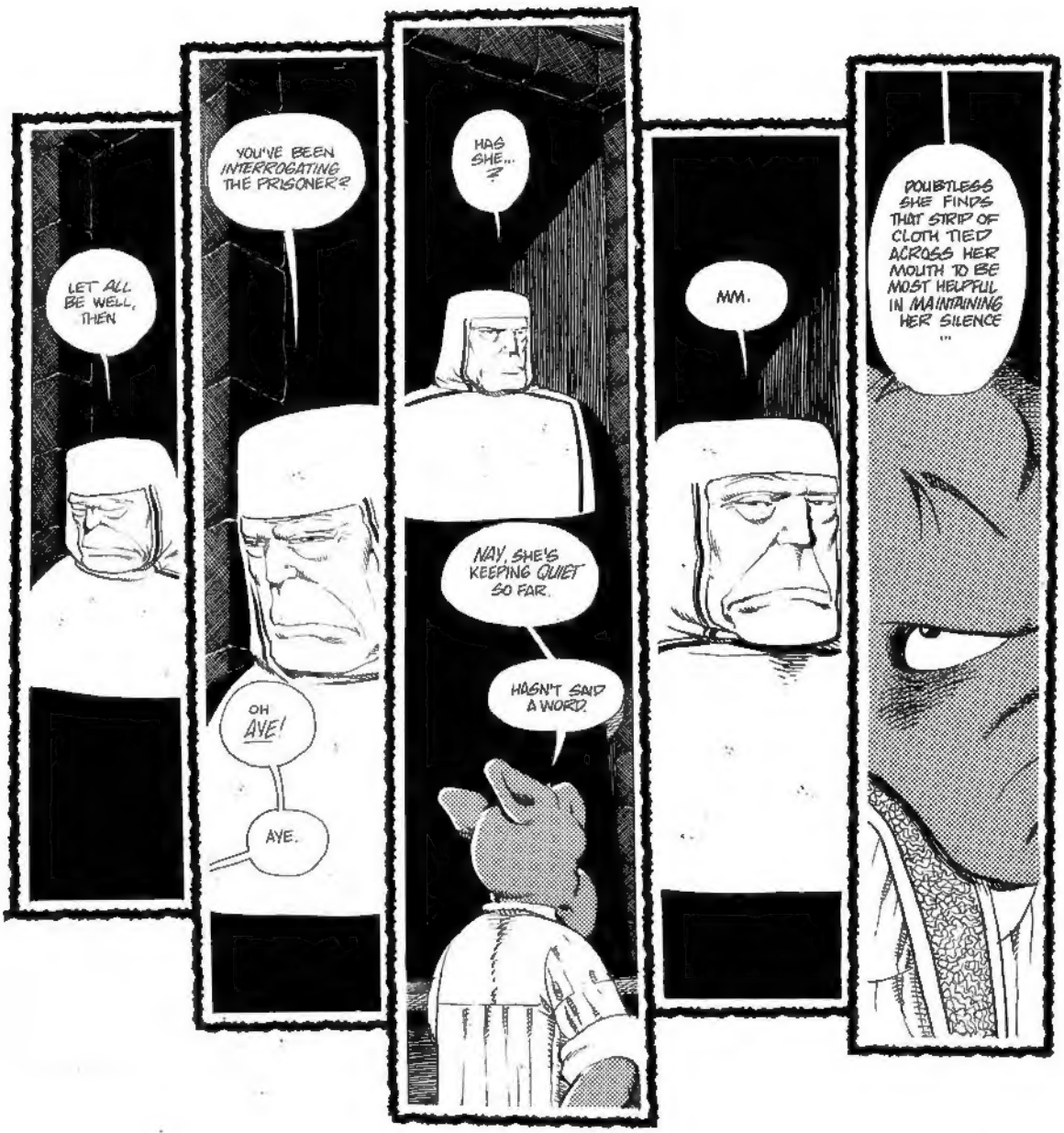

AN ANCHOR THAT'S
GOING PLACES
KNOCK
KNOCK

JUST A MINUTE..!


COME IN!
CLICK CLACK
TAP TIP TAP TIP TAP
YOUR PERFECTION ...
THE GOLD SPHERE HAS BEEN CAST
GOOD.
LET'S HAVE IT...
UNFORTUNATELY SOME MANNER OF IMPURITY GOT INTO THE MOLD.
THERE WAS A FLAW ...
I HAVE ORDERED IT RE-CAST
I HOPE THAT WAS THE CORRECT THING TO DO ...
I NATURALLY ASSUMED THAT YOU WOULDN'T WANT ...
NO. NO FLAWS.
THE SPHERE MUST BE PERFECT.

THEN...
THERE IS THIS...
YOU UNDERSTAND?
...
Oh-- UM...
AYE.


LET ALL BE WELL, THEN
YOU'VE BEEN INTERROGATING THE PRISONER?
OH AYE!
AYE.
HAS SHE... ?
NAY, SHE'S KEEPING QUIET SO FAR.
HASN'T SAID A WORD.
MM.
DOUBTLESS SHE FINDS THAT STRIP OF CLOTH TIED ACROSS HER MOUTH TO BE MOST HELPFUL IN MAINTAINING HER SILENCE ...

'TIL MIDNIGHT THEN ...
TIP TAP TIP TAP TIP
... YOUR PERFECTION
CLIK
CLAK
YOU CAN FORGET THE FINAL ASCENSION
I ASSUME THAT'S WHAT THE GOLD SPHERE IS FOR?

UH.
JUST AS I SUSPECTED ...
WELL YOU CAN JUST FORGET IT. UNDERSTAND?
THE ASCENSION IS A SACRED TRUST HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF YEARS OLD.
BETWEEN TERIM AND HER ADHERENTS ...
FOR THE PAST SEVEN THOUSAND YEARS, YOU MALES HAVE BEEN MEDDLING WITH IT...
THE WAY SHE KEEPS KNOCKING THE TOWER OVER ON TOP OF ALL OF YOU. I SHOULD THINK YOU WOULD'VE GOTTEN THE MESSAGE BY NOW

WHAT AM I SAYING?
ENDLESSLY REPEATING MISTAKES IS A MALE TRAIT
IN YOUR MINDS A VIRTUE.
CEREBUS ...
UH.
BESIDES WHAT WOULD YOU PETITION OUR LADY FOR? MORE WEALTH NO DOUBT. MORE POWER OF SOME KIND.....YES. THAT SOUNDS LIKE YOU...
PROBABLY ALCOHOL, TOO...
NO WONDER SHE KEEPS CRUSHING YOU ALL TO DEATH BENEATH TONS OF VOLCANIC ROCK...
WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO HER?
I'M CURIOUS ...

WELL... IF CEREBUS MET HER CEREBUS WOULD...
WHEN MOST HOLY MEETS HIM MOST HOLY WILL ASK WHERE WEISSHAUPT'S SOUL IS...
WEISS-HAUPT'S SOUL?
WHAT EVER FOR?
SO HE CAN SEE THAT CEREBUS WON
CEREBUS BEAT HIM

"CEREBUS ... WON"?
"CEREBUS ... BEAT ... HIM."?
I DON'T KNOW WHY I'M SO CONTINUALLY SURPRISED BY MALES ...
IT'S NOT AS IF YOU AREN'T PREDICTABLE ...
YOUR WHOLE LIVES ARE GIVEN OVER TO VARIATIONS ON 'I CAN PEE FURTHER THAN YOU CAN.'
HOW SAD
ONCE YOU'VE FINISHED THUMBING YOUR SNOUT AT OLD WEISSHAUPT ...
THEN WHAT?
THEN?
UH.

TYPICAL
YOU WANT TO GO ALL THE WAY TO HEAVEN FOR THE SAKE OF AN 'I TOLD YOU SO'.
CEREBUS WILL THINK OF SOMETHING TO SAY WHEN HE GETS THERE...
THAT'S EXACTLY THE POINT DEAR
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO GET THERE
AND IF YOU TRY...
YOU'RE JUST GOING TO GET THE TOWER KNOCKED OVER ON TOP OF YOU AGAIN...
IF YOU WON'T STAY OUT OF THIS FOR YOUR OWN SAKE, YOU MIGHT AT LEAST CONSIDER YOUR FOLLOWERS ...

...OR THE UNBORN GENERATIONS OF IESTANS WHO...
FORGET IT!
WHAT HAVE THE UNBORN GENERATIONS EVER DONE FOR CEREBUS?!
WHAT'S IN THE SCROLL?
HUH?
THE SCROLL POWERS BROUGHT YOU...
WHAT'S IN IT?

CEREBUS DOESN'T KNOW.
IT'S IN A DIFFERENT LANGUAGE
LET ME SEE
ANCIENT PIOT...
IT'S A REQUEST FOR A TRIAL
MINE.
LET'S SEE THERE'S SOME FLOWERY LANGUAGE ABOUT SERREA...
SLIGHTLY LESS FLOWERY BITS ABOUT IEST.
THEN THEY GET DOWNRIGHT FESTIVE IN DISCUSSING YOU...

AND.. JM
OH, HERE I AM...
'THE GODLESS, ATHEISTIC, MATRIARCHAL, BABY-KILLING, SLUT, BITCH, SORCERESS'
AS HE TOLD YOU...
THE PARTY STARTS AT MIDNIGHT...
JUDGING BY THE COMPOSITION, I WOULD IMAGINE THE WESTERN MILITARY IS LARGELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONTENT
THEY STRONGLY URGE AN EXECUTION BY FIRE...
OR SOMETHING EQUALLY CROWD PLEASING

AYE! A TRIAL
A CHANCE TO SHOW TARIM'S JUSTICE AND TO SHOW MOST HOLY WON'T STAND FOR ANY LAW-BREAKING
AND CLEAR UP SOME CONFUSION
CONFUSION? ABOUT WHAT?
ABOUT WHO WAS RUNNING TEST WHEN CEREBUS WAS PRIME MINISTER
ABOUT WHO IS RUNNING TEST NOW
AND HOW CEREBUS INTENDS TO RUN TEST
AND HOW DOES CEREBUS INTEND TO RUN TEST?
BY HAMMER AND SWORD, FIRE AND IRON
BY PUTTING THE WEAK TO DEATH AND CONSTANT TESTING OF THE STRONG

SORT OF A RETURN TO TRADITIONAL FAMILY VALUES..
WHAT?
NOTHING.
LET ME ASK YOU SOMETHING, THEN..
DON'T YOU EVER WONDER...
...WHY THE DEITY YOU WORSHIP IS SO DESTRUCTIVE? THAT HE IS THE CREATOR OF ALL LIVING THINGS...
AND YET HIS ONLY CONCERN ACCORDING TO THE TEACHINGS OF YOUR CHURCH IS DESTRUCTION
DESTRUCTION OF UNBELIEVERS DESTRUCTION OF CRIMINALS,
DESTRUCTION OF THOSE WHO LOSE FAITH
WHAT'S TO WONDER?
THAT DOESN'T STRIKE YOU AS A CONTRADICTION?
A CREATOR DESTROYING HIS CREATION?

I DON'T KNOW WHY...
BUT I'M GOING TO TRY ANOTHER APPROACH
I'LL TAKE YOUR WORD FOR IT
ARE YOU KNOW
EACH PLAYER GETS TEN FLIES AND A PEN-KNIFE
CHILDREN'S...?
GAME?
IT'S SOMETHING TO DO...
LIKE THAT CHILDREN'S GAME
PULLING THE WINGS OFF OF FLIES

HAS IT NEVER OCCURRED TO YOU THAT A MALE CREATOR MAKES NO SENSE ?
IF ALL THINGS COME FROM THE CREATOR AND IF WE ARE MADE IN THE CREATOR'S IMAGE
DOES IT NOT STAND TO REASON
THAT WE WHO CREATE NEW LIFE WITH OUR BODIES ...
MORE CLOSELY RESEMBLE THE CREATOR THAN YOU... YOU

..SEED DISPENSERS?
WELL UH...
DOES IT NOT STAND TO REASON?
YOU CREATE NOTHING WITH YOUR BODIES THAT ISN'T WASTE
EVEN WHAT YOU CONTRIBUTE TO THE BIRTH PROCESS
WELL LET'S JUST SAY THAT I HAVE TROUBLE PICTURING A DEITY CREATING THE SUN, THE MOON AND THE STARS THAT WAY...

* TEAR-IM

* TAY-RIM

NEXT MORE theology

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RETAIL AND WHOLESALE

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Strange Brew	$3.50 each	

Swords of Cerebus Vol. 1-6 - $7.00 each plus 75¢ post. & hand.
Files of Ms. Tree Vol. 1 & 2 - $7.00 each plus 75¢ post. & hand.
F.O.O.G. Portfolio - $7.00 plus $1.00 post. & hand.
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AARDVARK COMMENT

P.O. BOX 1674, STATION 'C', KITCHENER, ONTARIO N2G 4R2

Dear Dave,

I'm afraid I must incur your wrath and complain. Not about Cerebus - that's incredible, like always (and I'll bet all those idiots who thought the Secret Sacred Wars issues were worthless filler are feeling pretty stupid now that they're proved to be valuable reference material - ala Mind Games II!!!) Anyway, Dave, I decided I wanted to be rich - perfectly normal, right? And you, Dave, yes you were my inspiration on how to get rich. I did everything - I bought all of Thoroughgood's albums (on album and tape!), I started drinking alot and having people take pictures of me while I was drunk. I insulted everyone I knew mercilessly. You know, the works.

Unfortunately, all I've got now is a bunch of pretty good records, some embarassing pictures, and a lot of pissed-off friends. No money. Now I ask you, did I miss something?

Please hurry - if I don't get rich soon . well, I won't be rich.

Sincerely,

Marc Lynch
P.O. Box 28073
College Station,
Durham, NC., 27708

Beats the hell out of me. Are you sure you insulted everyone you know?

****

Dear Dad,

How dare Mark Haden Frazer imply that I would use Aardvark Comment for crassly promoting Strawberry Jam's comics. To even suggest that I would do anything other than extoll the virtues of CEREBUS in Aardvark Comment is deeply insulting. What does he take me for, some filthy capitalist?

Sure it would be easy to slip in a comment about how great Derek's scripts for **night life** are. I could go on and on about how wonderful Simon Tristam's art is. I could mention in passing how we are coming out with a new book entitled ANTARES CIRCLE in the spring. I could respond to Hugh Bonar by saying that Mike Bannon can be found in the pages of every issue of TO BE ANNOUNCED. I could even mention that we undercut A-V books by 25c, thus making them available to everyone, and not just the elite few.

But I would not stoop to such blatant commercialism in the pages of your fine periodical. After all, the readers are here for deep insight into CEREBUS, and just wouldn't put up with it.

Strawberry Jam Forever,

Paul Stockton,
2350 Dundas Street West,
Toronto, Ontario
M6P 4B1

Heaven forfend.

****

Dear Dave,

I seem to have misplaced Rob. If you see him lying around somewhere, please put him in a box and send him back to Edmonton. I'll pay the postage.

Thanks,

Derek McCulloch
P.O. Box 40430
Berkeley, CA., 94704-4430

Found him hiding under the stamp on your letter. You really shouldn't leave your stationery lying around like that until he's a little older.

****

Dear Friends,

In the interests of exchange of information in Canada, we would like to suggest that we exchange publications.

What is Lambda Resources? It's Canada's new gay news magazine. (You might have heard by now that the Body Politic has decided to cease publication. A few of us here in Toronto who were dismayed by this decision decided to do something about it - put out a new gay magazine). I have already put you on our mailing list to receive our first issue which will be out in mid-March.

Our mailing address is:
Canadian News Desk
Lambda Resources
Box 460, Stn 'A'
Toronto, Ont., M5W 2S9

Looking forward to hearing from you.

In lesbian and gay sisterhood,

Chris Bearchell
Editor

Actually Ger and I are just good friends.

****

Dave -

Last month I sent you my "Dave Sim is acting like a spoiled child" letter, as you may well recall. Well, for a spoiled child, you came up with a fucking brilliant piece of work with #91, very fluid, very sharp, and not at all bad-for a spoiled child!

Love it!!!

John A Wilcox
P.O. Box 642,
Greens Farms, CT., 06436

He really did, too. Weird son of a bitch.

****

Dear Dave,

I'm still a little unclear as to why I'm writing this, but some things in your extended letter to distributors and retailers in issue 90 bothered me to the point where I've decided to try putting my thoughts on paper (or screen, in this case).

First, let me lay a little ground work. I'm not a retailer, I'm not a distributor. I don't work for a retailer or distributor. I don't have any relatives or close friends who work for retailers or distributors. The closest connection I have to the comics industry in that I once sold an article to **The Comics Journal**. What I am is a reader. I've bought every issue of **Cerebus** since number 10, and intend to continue buying it for the forseeable future. (And no, I didn't say that to score points with you. Frankly, I don't care what you think of me any more than you care what I think of you. I'm just trying to give both of us a handle on the perspective from which this is being written. Groundwork, remember?).

The main issue behind your letter doesn't concern me all that much. As far as I'm concerned, you have every right to sell your work through whatever channels you see fit. Admittedly, this particular dispute doesn't have any impact on me, since having bought the **High Society** series once already, I wasn't planning on buying it again. Still, I think I'd have sense enough to see your side even if it did

mean that in order to pick up a book I wanted I had to forego the 20% discount I get at my local store. To me, the relationship you, the distributors, and the retailers currently have is one where everyone is making money and no one is making sacrifices. Therefore, nobody "owes" anything to anybody, and for the distributors to claim otherwise is pure greed. The only person who is inherently entitled to make money from a creation is the creator.

So why am I writing this? Because I think your proposal is based on fantasy.

Like I said, I've been buying **Cerebus**, and intend to continue buying it. Trouble is, a lot of my friends think my loyalty is misplaced. Keep in mind that we're talking about intelligent, educated people in their 20's and 30's, who do not object to putting a little effort into their reading, and who used to be regular readers of the book. They've simply decided that the rewards gained from reading **Cerebus** are no longer great enough to justify spending time and money on it. I've thought about dropping the book myself, but have decided that you still provide me with enough in the way of interesting characters, unusual plot twists, and intricate, if sketchy, societal detail to hold my interest. So, in the first place, **Cerebus** is not a book that will automatically appeal to anyone interested in intelligent comics. It's true that some people reject it because it's too sophisticated for them. It's equally true that some people think your work is self indulgent and boring.

In the second place, even if I met someone who I felt would love the book, I wouldn't recommend it until I knew them well enough to lend them about twenty consecutive back issues. (And as far as I can tell, lending is the only way to get someone started. I don't know anyone who'd be willing to buy twenty back issues of a comic because there's a chance they'd like it). Like it or not, you've reached the point where people make jokes about the idea of someone starting to read **Cerebus** with the current issue. Please note that I am not saying that you should write any other way. How you work is your business. Just realize that what the reader buys is his business, and you can't realistically expect to gain new readers if you consistently refuse to accomodate their ignorance of your world and characters. Creative decisions can have financial consequences.

The show pony (third place) is touchier, as you have more information about what your distributors are ordering and how many shops they service than I do. I find it difficult to believe that your assessment of your audience is accurate. Are there really upwards of thirty thousand, or even twenty thousand, people employed by direct sales retailers and distributors? And do **all** of them love **Cerebus**? Seems to me that if that many of the books were sold at discount or cost, the retailers and distributors wouldn't make any money off the book, and wouldn't be nearly as eager to carry it. There are three shops in the Detroit/Ann Arbor area that I buy from. One of them is a one man operation that also deals in other types of magazines - he only buys a couple of copies because that's all he knows he can sell, and he's not interested in gambling on the back issue market. The other two are large operations, and in both I can consistently count on finding about a dozen copies of your latest issue on the shelf, the week it first comes out.

Finally, I think you grossly overestimate the ability of retailers to influence the buying public. The shop I used to go to was in Ann Arbor, right near the University of Michigan campus, and attracted a clientele with what I believe was an unusually high average age and education level. Still, the store could never have stayed in business as long as it did (12 years) if not for the patronage of the Marvel junkies. The vast majority of comic buyers are still kids and adolescents, and most of them won't look once at a comic that doesn't have a superhero in it. (Hell, a lot of them won't even touch it if it doesn't say "Marvel" on it.) You can talk to these people all you want (I know those who have tried), and they'll still refuse to look at anything that's even a little bit different. My guess is that just about all of the people who shop at direct sales comic stores who might like **Cerebus** already know about it, and the ones who want to buy it are already buying it. If you want to dramatically increase your circulation, you'll have to seek other channels.

Years ago, you made the decision to do things your own way, and damn everybody else.

In the years since, you have repeatedly decided to continue with that philosophy, in the face of considerable temptation, I have a tremendous amount of respect for that. For you to get bent out of shape now because you're not in John Byrne's tax bracket is foolish, blind, and a little hypocritical. I think what really concerns me is the thought that if you hold too hard to the idea that it's everyone else's fault that **Cerebus** doesn't have triple it's current circulation, it could warp your world view to the point where your work is adversely affected. As a reader, I'd rather not see that happen.

Sincerely,

Mark Bernstein
195 Russell Ct.,
Ypsilanti, MI., 48198

Can't say I disagree with you. I would point out that the Cerebus/TMNT cross-over sold 130,000 copies -- the books at that time had a combined circulation of 90,000. I'd like to hear a plausible explanation for those other 40,000. Was it that much of an event?

****

Dear Dave & Company,

How about a copy of **High Society**? Enclosed is $20.00 plus $2.00 for postage.

While I'm at it, I thought I'd send you something for "Aardvark Comment".

To begin with, I stopped reading comics somewhere between the ages of 12-15. The same situations began to reappear, the characters started going into 2-D mode, and generally everything just started to get a bit boring. For the most part, I read Marvel. Recently, a dealer gave me a promo copy of their "Strikeforce Monturi" to see how I liked it, and I confirmed my suspicions on its quality. The story was predictable. **All** the characters sounded **exactly** alike (zero-D characters?). Beyond boring - stupid.

However, I somehow stumbled across Cerebus. A friend read it. So, at the book store, I started to pick-up-but-not-yet-buy-the occasional Cerebus to read. I got caught. When I met Dave at the Austin Fantasy Fair in April, I decided to get Swords Vol. 1. Since then I've gotten all the swords and I'm desperately buying back issues when I can afford it (the ones I read and never bought? They've caught up to me).

Cerebus has also led me to consider the occasional other independents. I've even bought my first "DC" in ages; Miller's **Batman** stuff.

To tell you the truth, I've never found anything that stacks up against **Cerebus**. Even Miller can't compare for story and character depth. For artwork I'd have to say you two are about even.

So tell me, is there anything out there you consider in your league?

A distant admirer,

Thos J. Laurent III
107A East 47th.
Austin, TX., 78751

Not really, But there's plenty of stuff above, below and around it.

AARDVARK-VANAHEIM, INC.

Plans for a Cerebus World Tour have been indefinitely postponed. Originally scheduled for late 1987 the postponement is attributed by Cerebus creator and Aardvark-Vanaheim president Dave Sim to his desire to get the monthly Cerebus comic back on schedule.

"There has been a natural slippage in the cover dates over the nearly ten years the book has been in existence, made worse by the two months I took off to sulk when I turned thirty (May 17, 1986) and the month or so for the U.K. Tour last fall", says Sim.

Consequently, beginning with issue 93 (cover dated December 1986) Cerebus will be shipping bi-weekly starting March 23 until the cover dates once more match the on-sale dates. Cerebus 94 (cover date January 1987) will ship April 6th, Cerebus 95 (cover date February 1987) will ship April 20th, Cerebus 96 (cover date March 1987) will ship May 4th, Cerebus 97 (cover date April 1987) will ship May 18th, Cerebus 98 (cover date May 1987) will ship June 1st, Cerebus 99 (cover date June 1987) will ship June 15th and Cerebus 100 (cover date July 1987) will ship June 29th.

"Gerhard and I have been in Honolulu since January 3rd and have completed issues 93 through 96. Assuming we can maintain our present pace, there's no reason we can't be back on track in time for issue 100. The personal appearances are being sacrificed with the idea that getting back on schedule benefits 30,000 fans while the autograph sessions benefit only the dozen or so people who show up."

In addition, Cerebus 94 will announce plans to publish CEREBUS (a collection of Cerebus #1-25) on August 15th of this year and CHURCH AND STATE Volume One (reprinting Cerebus #52-80) on June 15th, 1987.

"This will allow a new Cerebus fan to buy the stories in Cerebus 1-80 for what we consider a reasonable price — $63 US or $78 Canadian."

Sim also says he intends to offer the second printing of HIGH SOCIETY to distributors and shops at approximately the same discounts as are offered on Cerebus.

"I am doing this in reaction to their complaints that they weren't given a chance at the first printing. I imagine they won't order enough, so we'll go back to selling them direct through the back of the book."

When asked how many he would need to have orders for to make a second printing available in comic shops, Sim replied, "Well, we'll be printing another six thousand copies so we'd have to have orders for at least five thousand before I'd consider it. Let's just say based on the distributors' track record with Cerebus material that I'm not holding my breath."

Will CEREBUS and CHURCH AND STATE be made available to distributors and shop owners?

"That's hard to predict. If they order enough HIGH SOCIETY, it would certainly influence my decision."

Swords of Cerebus Volumes one through six are officially out of print. The back up stories and introductions will NOT appear in the CEREBUS reprint book.

People wishing to order advance copies of CEREBUS and CHURCH AND STATE can write to P.O. Box 1674, Stn 'C', Kitchener, Ontario, Canada, N2G 4R2 or phone (519) 576-7820 for VISA and MASTERCARD orders. Pre-publication price is $20.00 US and $25.00 CDN for CEREBUS, and $23.00 US or $28.00 CDN for CHURCH AND STATE, plus postage.

High Society's first printing is sold out as of April 24.

(reprinted from the comics buyer's guide)

BOX 1674 STATION 'C' KITCHENER ONTARIO N2G 4R2

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reprints Cerebus #1-25

520 PAGES

20.00 U.S.
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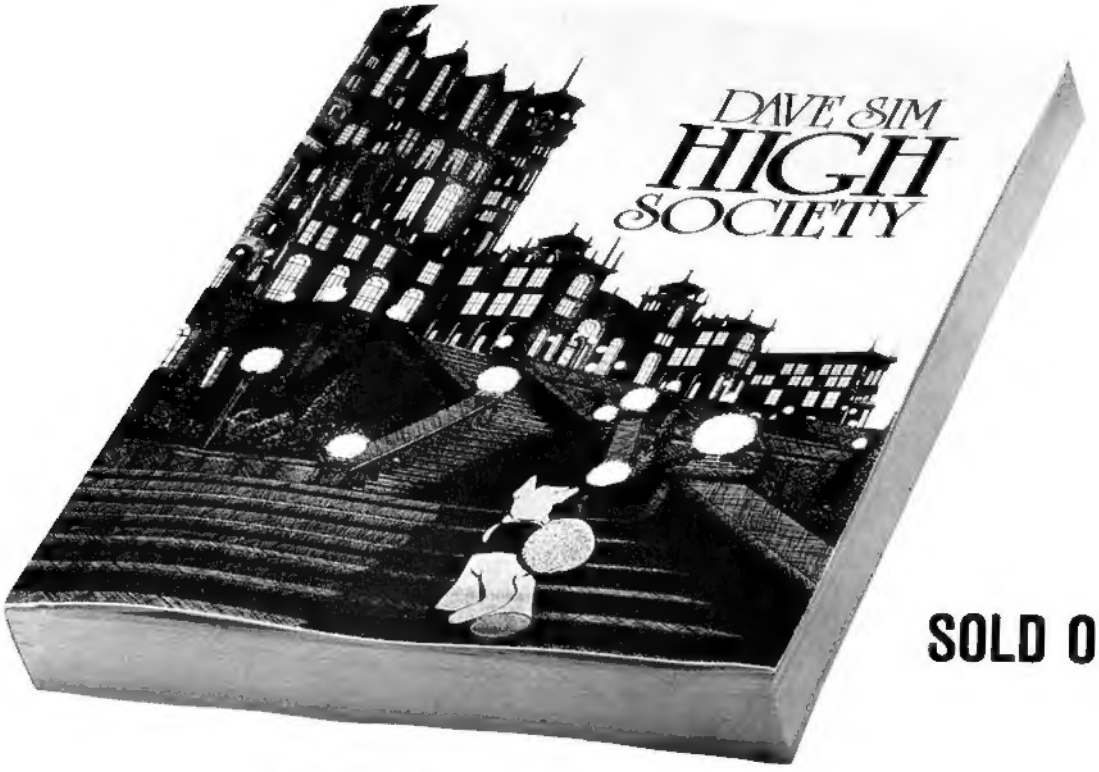
Plus $2.00 for postage

cover sketch



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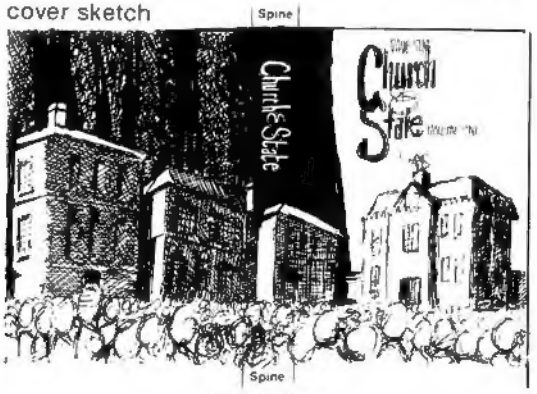

AVAILABLE
JUNE 15

592 PAGES

reprints Cerebus #52-80

23.00 U.S.
28.00 CANADIAN*
Plus $2.50 for postage

VISA

*Pre publication price. Retail price will be slightly higher.

master charge

Ger and some of the local wildlife
Oahu, 1987

Photo by Gerhard's camera